

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SWF-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-04 FRB-01 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-01 SP-02

STR-01 TRSE-00 LAB-01 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 L-01 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-06

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R 231801Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3497

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EC, CA, ETRD, FR

SUBJECT: EC-CANADA RELATIONS

REF: EC BRUSSELS 8143

1. DUFOURCQ (QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR WESTERN EUROPE)
DISCUSSED WITH US RECENTLY FRENCH OBJECTIONS TO "CON-
TRACTUAL LINK" BETWEEN EC AND CANADA. HE SAID THAT
CANADIANS SEEM TO WANT A COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT. ACCORD-
ING TO DUFOURCQ, FRENCH SEE PROBLEMS IN RECONCILING THIS
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TYPE OF EC-CANADA ARRANGEMENT WITH THE GATT. MOREOVER,

TO THE EXTENT THAT CANADIAN ASPIRATIONS GO BEYOND
COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS TO INCLUDE BROADER ECONOMIC SUBJECTS,
THE FRENCH ARE RELUCTANT TO ACCORD TO THE EC COMPETENCE
TO TREAT DIRECTLY WITH CANADA. THE FRENCH PREFER TO
MAINTAIN THEIR ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH CANADA ON A
BILATERAL LEVEL.

2. COMMENT: IN ADDITION TO THE RATIONALE GIVEN ABOVE
BY DUFOURCQ, IT MAY NOT BE OVERLY MACHIAVELLIAN TO
SUPPOSE THAT THE FRENCH ALSO WISHED BY THEIR STANCE AT
THE LUXEMBOURG EC MINISTERIAL TO RECALL TO THE CANADIANS
THAT THE ROAD TO SUCCESSFUL EC-CANADA RAPPORT IN
BRUSSELS LEADS THROUGH PARIS. TRUDEAU'S VISIT TO FRANCE,
AND THE GENERAL FEELING OF EUPHORIA THAT THIS HAS
GENERATED IN PARIS, MAY RESULT IN A SOMEWHAT MORE
COOPERATIVE FRENCH STAND ON EC-CANADA RELATIONS.
STONE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, ECONOMIC COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PARIS25105
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740303-0271
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741023/aaaaathc.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: EC BRUSSELS 8143
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <06-Aug-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC-CANADA RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, CA, FR, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005